

### **Amendments to the Specification**

**Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:**

This application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/870,152 filed May 30, 2001.

**Page 2, lines 2-12, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

However, the hitherto mold producing technique needs high temperature or high pressure steam heating when expanded resin particles are fusion-bonded. This leads to a drawback that surface quality of a surface layer is deteriorated by heat ~~when~~ upon heating. Therefore there is another drawback that when a design as an interior decoration member is formed on the surface of a surface layer, the design becomes difficult to predominate. There is also another problem that if molding is carried out at a low temperature, fusion-bonded between expanded resin particles is deteriorated and adhesion of the surface layer and the foam layer and of the foam layer and the base member are also deteriorated.

**Page 7, lines 14-24, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

The blending content of the polypropylene resin in the coat made of a polyethylene resin is selected from the range from 1 to 100 parts by weight, preferably from 1 to 50 parts by weight for 100 parts by weight of the polyethylene resin. If the blending content of the polypropylene resin is smaller than 1 part by weight, effect of improvement of adhesiveness between the core and the coat is low. If the blending content exceeds 100 parts by weight, since the ~~sea~~ matrix and ~~island~~ domain conformation of the coat in which the polyethylene resin makes a continuous layer changes, the polypropylene resin constitutes a continuous ~~sea~~ matrix phase. On this account, the heating temperature when molding cannot be lowered.

**Page 8, line 19 to page 9, line 2, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

In the case of comparatively greater L/D ratio of ~~1-5~~ 0.5 to 3, it becomes easy to obtain a mold having many spaces. Concerning molding performance, L/D ratio is preferably from 0.7 to

2. The average of the short diameter D of expanded resin particles 1, that is, average particle diameter is 1 to 6 mm, and preferably 1.5 to 4.0 mm. By making the particles so as to have such a particle diameter, the particles can penetrate well deep into a comparatively narrow space or a space with a complicated shape.

**Page 11, lines 7-20, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

The above mentioned expanded resin particles has a composite structure that is constituted by a core that is in an expanded state and is made of a polypropylene resin, and a polyethylene resin coat covering the core that is in a substantially non-expanded state. The core in an expanded state, for example, has a closed cell structure or an open cell structure, and a closed cell structure is preferable. The reason is because a closed cell structure has a high compression repulsion of the core when molding since a closed cell structure is made of many closed cells, and compressive strength is high even at a low density. Closed cell ~~rate~~ ratio of the core is preferably 50% or higher, and more preferably 70% or higher. This makes a compression repulsion of the core when molding further higher, and a resin molding composite of which compressive strength is high even at a low density can be obtained.

**Page 13, line 20 to page 14, line 11, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

For the purpose of giving further soft touch feeling to a resin sheet and an expanded sheet, other polymers or copolymers may be blended as a secondary ingredient with a main ingredient polypropylene resin. As such a secondary ingredient, a polyolefin polymer or copolymer is preferable, and particularly preferably one or more than one polyolefin polymers or copolymers selected from polyethylene resins such as linear ultra-low density polyethylene, branched low density polyethylene resin, linear low density polyethylene resin, middle density polyethylene resin, and high density polyethylene resin; polyolefin elastomers such as ethylene-propylene rubber, ethylene-butene rubber, ethylene-octene rubber, and propylene-butene rubber; and polybutene resin. For the purpose of enhancing soft touch feeling of a resin sheet and an expanded sheet, if

such a polyolefin polymer or copolymer has a melting point, the melting point is lower than 140°C, preferably 135°C or lower, and desirably 130°C or lower.

**Page 14, lines 12-13, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

This polypropylene resin is preferably non-crosslinked, and may be crosslinked with peroxides ~~or radioactive rays~~ by irradiation.

**Page 17, lines 17-19, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

If a foam, a surface layer and a base member are all constituted by polyolefin resins, it is preferable because ~~regeneration~~ recycling can be easily conducted when retrieved things are crushed.

**Page 19, lines 14-22, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

Next, in a closed vessel, 100 parts by weight of the above mentioned composite particles, 250 parts by weight of water, 1.0 part by weight of calcium tertiary phosphate having particle diameters of 0.3 to 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , and 0.007 parts by weight of sodium dodecylbenzenesulfonate were placed. Subsequently, 13 parts by weight of butane was supplied into the closed vessel with stirring. After the contents were filled at a filling ~~rate~~ ratio of 62%, temperature was elevated for an hour until a temperature of 145°C was reached and the temperature was maintained for 30 minutes.

**Page 21, lines 9-16, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

A molding composite was obtained in the same manner as in the above Example 1. In this case, as shown in Table 1, a polypropylene resin expanded sheet having expansion magnification of 25 times, compressive hardness of 0.06 MPa, and melting point of 138°C was used as a cushioning material. Concerning the molding composite taken out from inside the mold, although the form foam layer was adhered and integrated with the surface layer, there was shrinkage, deformation or the like in the surface layer.

**Page 22, lines 13-20, please rewrite the paragraph as follows:**

A molding composite was obtained in the same manner as in Example 2. In this case, as shown in Table 1, a polypropylene resin expanded sheet having expansion magnification of 20 times, compressive hardness of 0.08 MPa, and melting point of 138°C was used as a cushioning material. Concerning the molding composite taken out from inside the mold, although the ~~form~~ foam layer was adhered and integrated with the surface layer, there was shrinkage, deformation or the like in the surface layer.